

Serial No. 10/660,667Docket No. 30430-CNT1Remarks:

Claims 1-73 remain for consideration in this application. Claims 23 and 44 have been amended. Claim has been amended by virtue of the amendment to claim 23. Claims 70-73 are newly added.


In the last office action, all claims were found to be allowable over the art, with the exception of claims 23, 25, 27, 44, 46, 48, and 58-61. Of these claims, claims 23, 44, and 58 are in independent format. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the time given to a phone interview this afternoon. Pursuant to the interview, the Applicants have amended claims 23 and 44 to recite "a non-polymeric compound." Claim 58 refers to the composition of claim 23, so this amendment affects claim 58 as well. Support for this amendment can be found on page 4, lines 17-18 et seq. of the specification.

Claims 24, 26, 45, and 47 were found to be allowable over the art by the Examiner, but were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Therefore, these claims were rewritten in independent format (as claims 70-73, respectively) to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

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It is believed that no further issues remain in this application. In view of the foregoing, a Notice of Allowance appears to be in order and such is respectfully requested. Any additional fee which is due in connection with this amendment (including any excess claim fees) should be applied against Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully submitted,

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